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# House tour: Interior designer Hanne Gathe crafted every detail of her home in Oslo

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After living in London for more than a decade and spending a couple years in Australia, the cofounder and design director at Gathe + Gram created her nest back home. Photographed by Filippa Tredal. Styled by Tone Kroken.



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*In the dining room, dining table custom designed by Hanne Gathe; vintage Danish dining chairs unnamed from 1960 reupholstered in Dedar Boucle.*

The pandemic made many people rethink the space in which they live. Interior designer [Hanne Gathe](#), cofounder and design director at Gathe + Gram, was one of these people. “During lockdown, we got so sick of our old apartment and decided to put it on the market”, remembers Gathe. A few months later, she moved into her new home with her partner, Carl, and dog, Brinkley. “It was so run down and had not been touched since 1987,” she confesses. What made her fall in love with this apartment, however, were the large rooms, great location in the residential area of Frogner on the west side of Oslo, [leafy trees outside the windows](#), perfect layout and great potential.

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“I love the neighbourhood’s architecture and feel,” Gathe says. “Most of the buildings are from the early 1900s, meaning beautiful facades, tall ceilings and original features. It is also close to the Vigelandspark, the most charming park in the city.”

The classic building from 1898 features 3.1-metre high ceilings, original cornicing and two working wood burning fireplaces — “a huge bonus during the cold winters,” as Gathe says. “I love the history of the space and the fact that no wall is straight.”

After managing to negotiate a quick handover, the interior designer got the keys within two weeks and had her team of builders ready to turn the apartment around in only three-and-a-half months — quite an achievement.

“We ripped out everything except the original cornicing,” says Gathe, who took the opportunity to choose how she wanted every element of her new home. “All the electrics, plumbing and flooring were replaced along with moving the kitchen to what was previously the bedroom in order to make the layout more open. I also designed a new fireplace that replaced one of the old ones as I wanted to be able to look at the flames.”



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*In the kitchen, joinery custom designed by Hanne Gathe; ceramic artwork over shelf custom 'Ebb' by Fenella Elms; ceiling light by Arteriors Home; wood burning oven in corner original antique from 1898; Arabescato marble by Ellingard Collection.*

One of the most important characteristics of the project for Gathe consisted in designing a light and bright home as opposed to the dark one she lived in during the lockdown of winter 2020. The original architecture of the building was also a source of inspiration to mix modern and classical pieces in the elegant 96-square-metre apartment, which comprises two bedrooms, a large living room, a kitchen, a bathroom and a balcony. "I did create the majority of the furniture and built-in items, making the space very personal," Gathe says.

The neutral tones (from the paint brand Jotun) used throughout give a feeling of calm. "Four different shades of white adorn the living areas and the main bedroom, creating subtle changes," Gathe notes. In the guest bedroom and in the walk-in (adorned with a textured Phillip Jeffries

wallpaper), there are slight pinks, as well as green and blue touches. As my taste changes a lot, I need to be able to easily change out furniture pieces without having to repaint everything.”



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Long lasting finishes such as the oak herringbone flooring and marble for the kitchen and bathroom were obvious choices for the interior designer. “As the kitchen is open, I didn't want it to look ... standard, so I did the fronts without handles and put a hint of mint,” she explains. “The splashback is taller than normal to be able to see more of the beautiful Arabescato marble and the upper cabinets have an antique mirror inlay.”





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*In the living room, vintage 60s coffee table designed by Berthold Müller; custom sofa designed by Hanne Gathe; &Tradition 'Little Petra' armchair chair in shearling, side table from Ethnicraft; custom bench designed by Hanne Gathe; black and white artwork by Lisbeth Johansen Sjøvoll; rug from Toulemonde Bochart; custom pouf by Hanne Gathe; floor and ceiling lights from Visual Comfort; custom fireplace designed by Hanne Gathe clad in Estremoz marble; wood floor from Havwoods.*

All the pieces that furnish the apartment tell a story that is dear to Gathe, such as the vintage turquoise and pink mosaic table from the 1960s designed by Berthold Müller, which was the interior designer's first purchase for this apartment (Gathe sold everything from her old place and started fresh), as well as the glazed white piece in the kitchen commissioned to Fenella Elms. Gathe had the Danish vintage dining chairs reupholstered in a Dedar boucle fabric, while the Little Petra chair in shearling by &Tradition had been on her wish list for a long time.

